REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, and 12 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, and 11, which are independent, are hereby amended. Claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the specification, specifically on page 17. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

The title is hereby amended, thereby obviating the objection.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, and 12, which were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement, are amended herein, obviating the rejection.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,301,012 to White, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,379,058 to Petteruti, et al.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia:

"...wherein said connection source comprises: information about said predetermined connection destination;

menus of maintenance offerings;

connecting method information; and

connecting means for making a connection request to said predetermined connection destination based on said information about said predetermined connection destination, menus of maintenance offerings, and connecting method information and, given a permission, for automatically connecting to said connection destination; said connection request including a connection source identification for identifying said connection source..." (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants U.S. Patent No. 6,301,012 to White, et al. (hereinafter, merely "White") relates to configuring a peripheral device on a network without user intervention.

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,379,058 to Petteruti, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Petteruti") relates to a system for providing RF communications between a host and portable printer by linking the printer to the host such that the printer operates responsive to the linked host.

Applicants respectfully submit that nothing has been found in White or Petteruit, taken alone or in combination, that would teach or suggest the above-identified features of independent claim 1.

Specifically, Applicants submit that White and Petteruti fail to disclose or suggest that said connection source comprises information about said predetermined connection destination, menus of maintenance offerings, connecting method information, and connecting means for making a connection request to said predetermined connection destination based on said information about said predetermined connection destination, menus of maintenance offerings, and connecting method information and, given a permission, for automatically connecting to said connection destination; said connection request including a connection source identification for identifying said connection source, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, claim 1 is patentable.

For reason similar to those described above, claims 6 and 11 are also believed to be patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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